

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): A method for controlling the configuration of ~~the~~ movements of ~~the~~ a liquid metal poured into a continuous casting mold for metal slabs or other similar flat products, ~~especially made of steel, by means of the method comprising:~~

providing a submerged nozzle provided with lateral outlet ports submerged in the continuous casting mold and that ~~turned so as to face the short walls of the continuous casting mold; it being possible for said configuration to be naturally in "single loop" or "double loop" mode, or else to be "unstable",~~

supplying the liquid metal to the continuous casting mold though the lateral outlet ports;
employing characterized in that a linear inductor source to generate a magnetic field having a magnetic flux perpendicular to a long wall of the continuous casting mold ~~are employed at a level substantially the same as the lateral outlet ports (2) of the submerged nozzle (3), a portion of the linear inductor source generating the magnetic field that traveling horizontally outward, in the a direction going from the nozzle (3) toward each short mold wall (5), by means of inductors (14, 14', 15, 15', placed so as to face at least one long wall of the mold on either side of the nozzle, and in t hat the magnetic fields are made to travel throughout the entire casting operation, so as to set up steady state configuration stabilized in "double loop" mode..~~

2. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the magnetic fields characterized in that said traveling magnetic fields are is employed only if the configuration of the movements of the metal poured into the mold is not naturally in a "-double loop roll mode".

Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment
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3-6 (Cancelled)